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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia		
SUBJECT	Information Concerning the Medzilaborce, Liptov and Snina Districts of Czechoslovakia		
THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION			
<p>1. The terrain on both sides of the border [Czechoslovakia-Poland], north-north-east of Medzilaborce, Czechoslovakia, is about the same; rugged, forested mountains and deep, narrow valleys. Concealment was a simple matter. There were, up until 1943, trails through the area around Paseka, Danava and Ruzen used by hunters and smugglers. It was a simple matter to cross the border into Poland in 1943 and many of the local Czechoslovaks who had relatives in Poland did so frequently.</p> <p>[REDACTED] At that time [REDACTED] the border was marked by stones about two feet high and 12 inches square, placed about 300 or 400 meters apart.</p> <p>2. [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] Just outside of Kallinov to the northeast was a two-story customs house made of brick. The border guard and customs officers used the building.</p> <p>3. [REDACTED]</p> <p>On map 4467 (2), [REDACTED] marked roughly the route of a part of the Strazske-Presov railroad completed in 1941. It was a single-track road. Also on this map, south of Prekoy, [REDACTED] a pasture and castle ruin.</p> <p>4. On map 4468/1 [REDACTED] military artillery range, the airfield, which had only two hangars and a packed earth field, a high cliff on the Laborec River from which one could view the airfield, a castle ruin and the new location of the village of Valnaskovec, which was moved from the military area to a spot south of Buzance.</p>			

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6. On map 5138/3 [] [] location of the customs house outside of Medzilaborce and of the log cabin near Horehronie.
7. On map 4468/3 [] [] balance of the military area (also indicated on 5138/1), a particularly high ledge of 2,700 feet and of the very deep lake Morena below.
8. There were several mills in the Medzilaborce area, otherwise the main industry was farming. There was no electricity in this border area except at Medzilaborce, which had its own, very weak power supply. All travel in the border areas was by foot. In winter, skis were used if the snow was deep enough. Houses throughout the area were of simple farm or village construction. Roofs of barns and border and village houses were made of straw. Houses in towns had slate roofs. Most all houses had cellars.
9. Communications were poor. There were few radios; about one per 100 houses in towns with electricity. The only telephones were at customs houses and border guard stations, which were tied up with the "Notariat" centrals. Every fourth or fifth village had one "Notariat" or Administrator. His home and office usually housed six or seven gendarmes, the post office and the telephone.
10. At Humenne there was an old, electric power station that was not used. Instead, power was brought from Presov by the East Slovakian Company on lines running along the river south of Humenne.
11. There were very few diseases. In 1934 there was an outbreak of typhus in the area. Also, at Habura there was always much trouble with syphilis. The villagers had been infected many years ago and, through ignorance, shame and lack of medical attention, the disease was still prevalent up to 1940. The State finally sent doctors to the village to try and stamp out the disease.
12. Basically the valley people were better off than mountain village people because of better growing lands. Many mountain people worked as farm laborers for the valley farm owners. Most villagers, mountain or valley, dressed alike. The men wore tight-fitting trousers of white, homemade soap and white shirts that were homespun. Shoes were heavy, ankle-type boots. Most business men in the larger towns wore suits.
13. Around Humenne the people were predominantly Roman Catholic, while in the border areas they were Greek Catholic.

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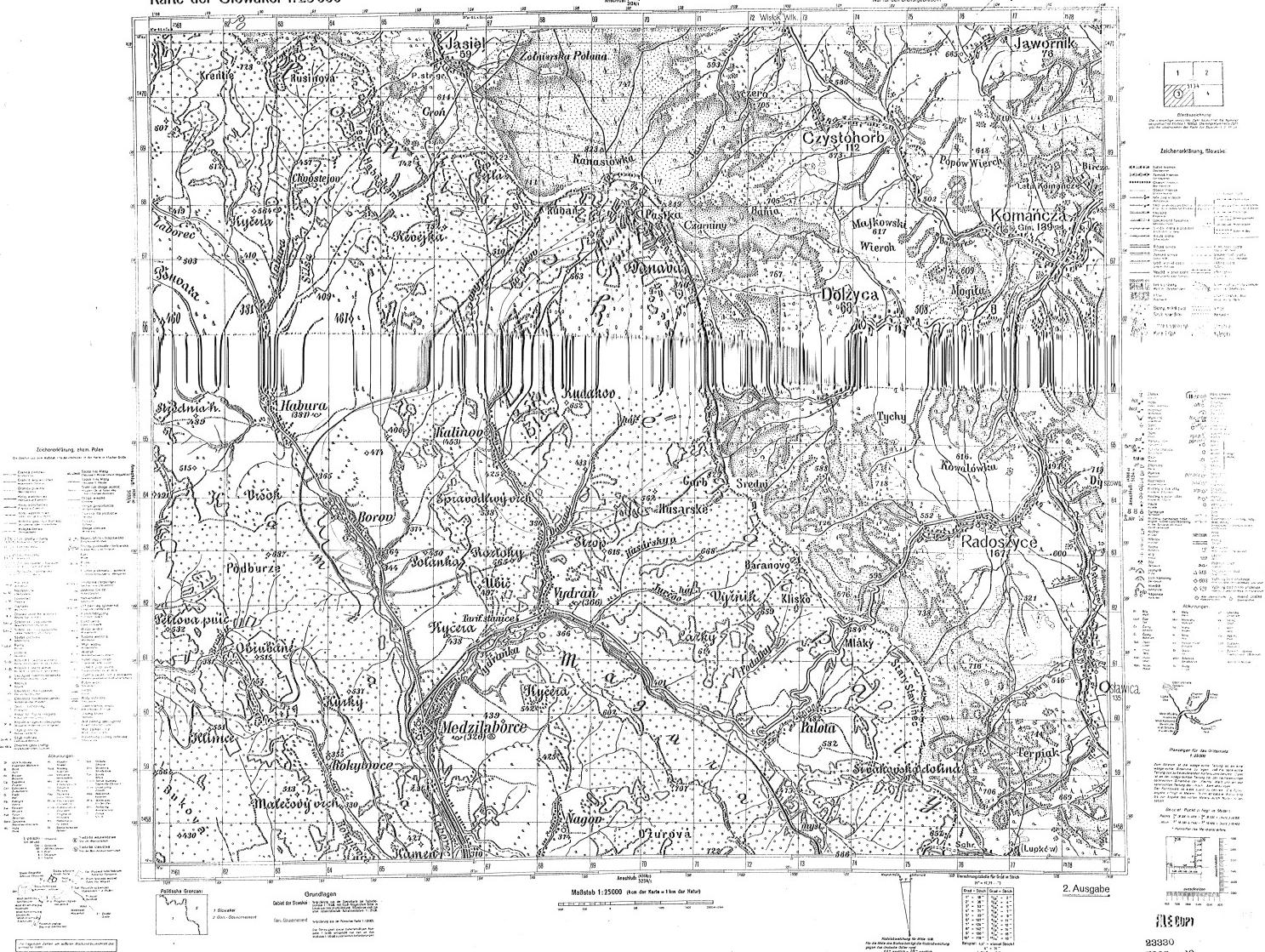
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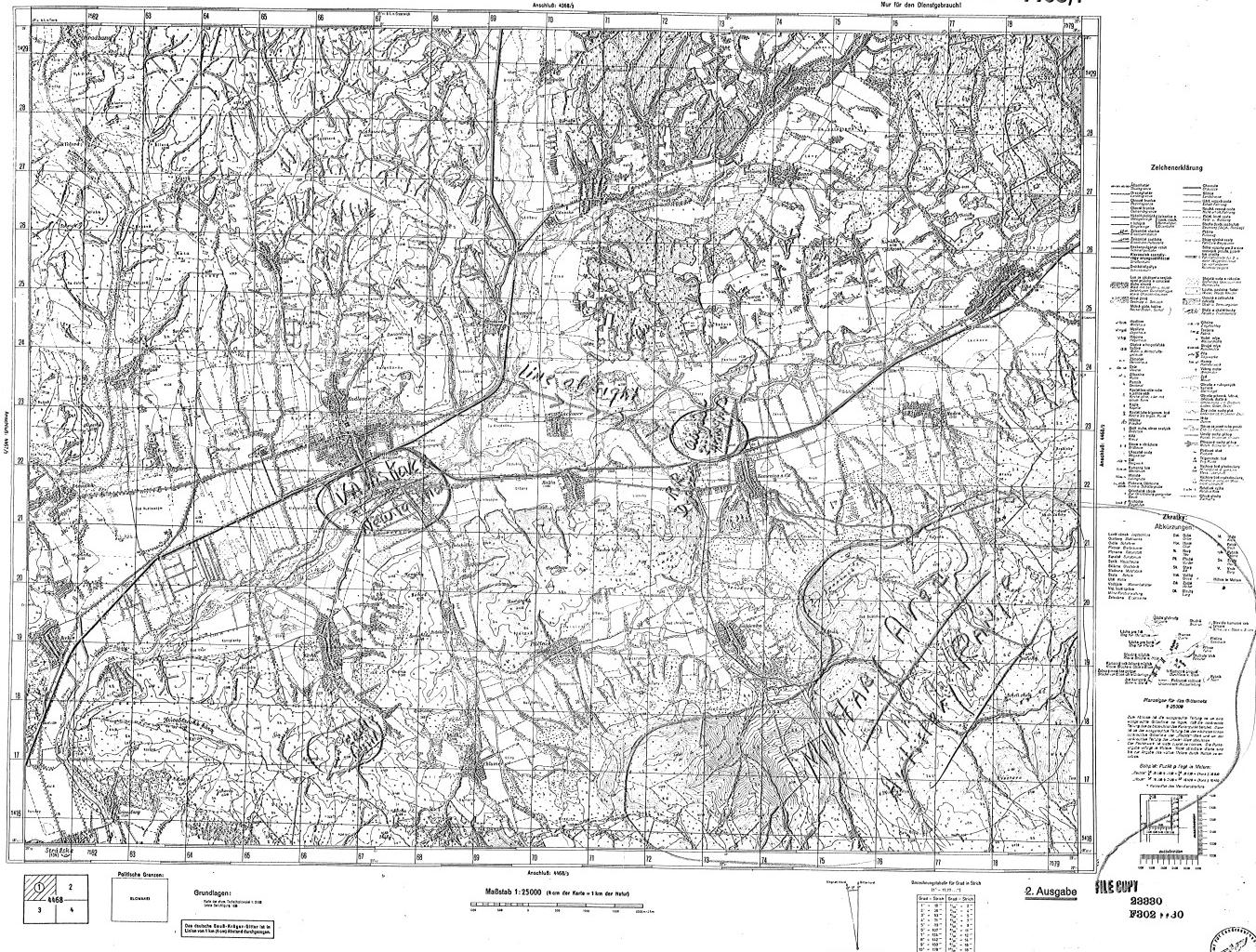
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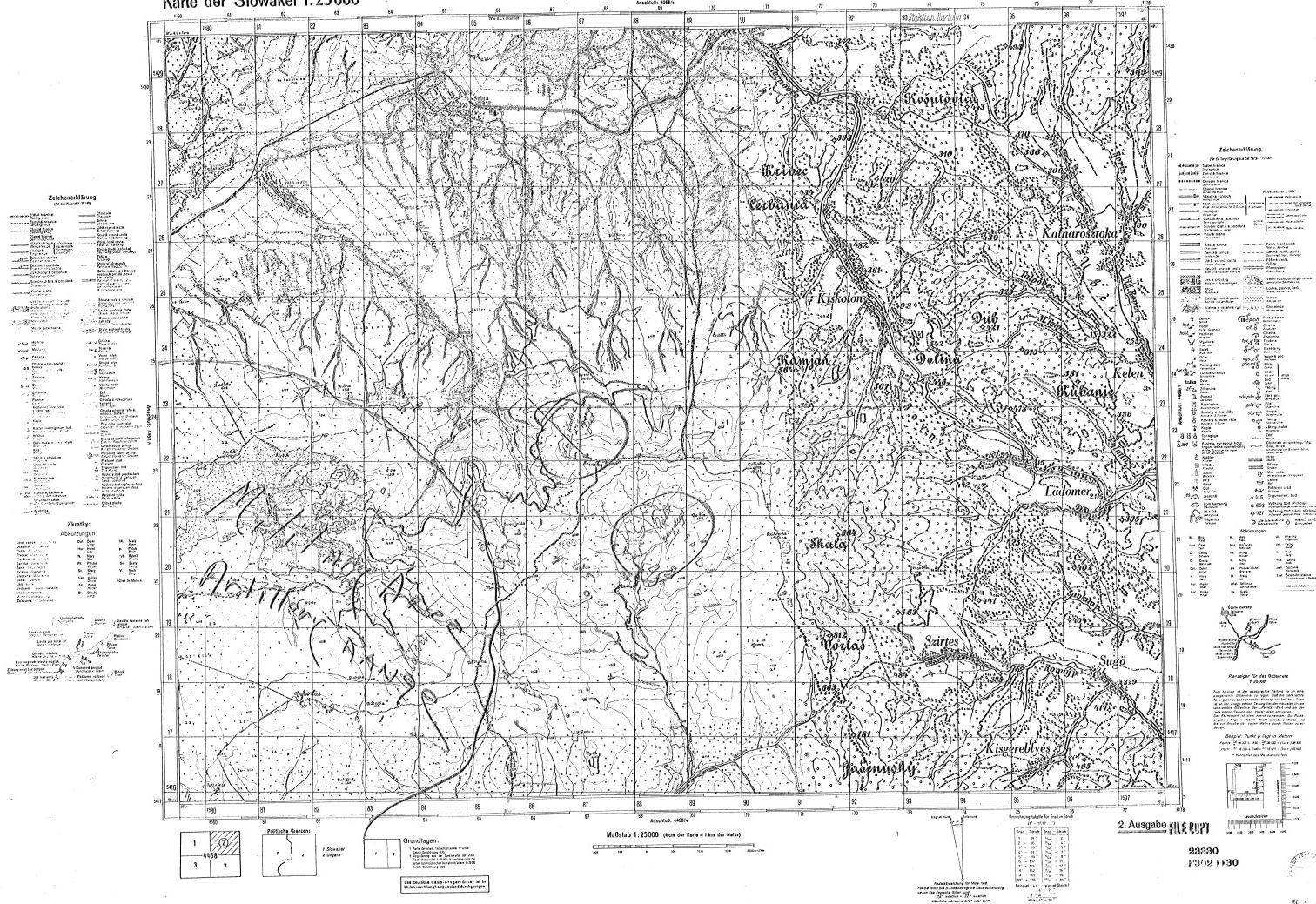
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Sonderausgabe! IX. 40. **4468/1**



Karte der Slowakei 1:25000

Sonderausgabe! IX. 40. **4468/2**



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Sonderausgabe! IX. 40.

4467/2

